

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 2-4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For purposes of expedition and without prejudice or disclaimer, applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2.

Based on the Examiner's indications, all claims should now be allowable, and reconsideration and allowance are therefore requested.

Should any minor issues remain outstanding, the Examiner should contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below so they can be resolved expeditiously without need of a further written action.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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